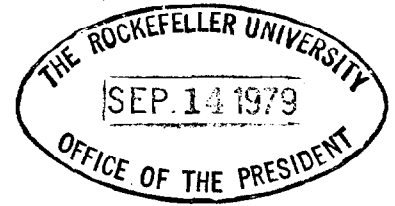




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GENERAL DIRECTOR

September 11, 1979

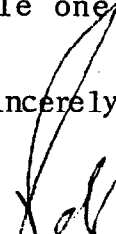
Mr. Philip Handler ✓
President
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20418

Dear Phil:

Please do accept my apologies for being so long about answering your letter of June 15 with respect to the Rockefeller University Hospital. In a weak moment last Spring, I accepted appointment from President Carter as one of the 12 members of his Commission to investigate the Three Mile Island Nuclear Accident and the efforts of the Commission have been very time consuming. Aside from the many meetings since June 1, for example, I have accumulated a five foot high stack of papers, reports and letters relating to the accident. As a consequence, I am afraid the remainder of my correspondence has suffered.

The report of the visiting board to the hospital was, as you might have expected, the subject of a considerable amount of discussion in the June meeting of the Rockefeller Board. Josh Lederberg wrote Dr. Harvey on June 8 immediately after that meeting and I am sure you received a copy of that letter as a member of the standing Committee on Scientific Affairs. That committee is to meet with the visiting board and report to the RU Board with its assessments and recommendations at the November Board meeting. Certainly, you will want to be sure that the standing Committee on Scientific Affairs has reviewed adequately the points you make in your letter of June 15. To me, resolution of the salary structure problem, given the scale practicing MDs have built up to over this past decade, may be the single critical problem needing solving. Obviously, there is no way the university can afford to attempt in any way to match practicing MD incomes for its research staff. If paying on that scale is a requisite if properly qualified clinical researchers are to be recruited (but I'm not at all sure it is) then the problem is, indeed, an intractable one. See you in November.

Sincerely,


Honorary Chairman and
General Director

PHH mt

cc: → Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Rodney Nichols